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Facsimile

DATE: August 18, 2006

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TO: Office of Patent Publication Mail Stop Issue Fee United States Patent and Trademark Office	571-273-2885	571-272-1000

FROM: Sheila Badon (650) 849-4800 (650) 849-4455
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PAGES: (INCLUDING THIS COVER PAGE): 6

RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/610,188
Entitled: Improved Directional Microphone System
Filed: July 5, 2000
Inventors: Jon C. Taenzer, Roman E. Roginsky
Attorney Docket No.: 2023796-7036172001

MESSAGE:

Certificate of Mailing/Transmission (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)):	
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Dated: August <u>18</u> , 2006	Name of Person Certifying: <u>Sheila Badon</u> Printed Name: Sheila Badon

Enclosed:

- Transmittal (2 pgs);
- Part B- Issue Fees Transmittal (1 p);
- Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (2 pgs).

For transmission problems, please call (650) 849-4825

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Attorney Docket No. 2023796-7036172001

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Jon C. Taenzer, et al.

Serial No.: 09/610,188

Filed: July 5, 2000

For: IMPROVED DIRECTIONAL
MICROPHONE SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 2644

Examiner: Pendleton, Brian T.

Confirmation No. 5001

TRANSMITTAL

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

- Issue Fee Transmittal
- Comments on Statement of Reasons For Allowance

Applicant respectfully requests that the Official Filing Receipt for the above-identified patent application be sent to Applicants attorney of record at the address listed below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any and all fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Bingham McCutchen's Deposit Account No. 50-2518, referencing billing

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 2023796-7036172001

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DATE: August 17, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Gerald Chan

Registration No. 51,541

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Patent
7036172001**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of:

Jon C. Taenzer

Serial No.: 09/610,188

Filed: July 5, 2000

For: IMPROVED DIRECTIONAL
MICROPHONE SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 2644

Examiner: Pendleton, Brian T.

Confirmation No.: 5001

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for allowing the above-identified application. According to the Notice of Allowability, "The cited prior art does not disclose two first order microphone elements each of the elements having a finite delay ratio greater than one and a combining unit connected to the two microphone elements for producing a second or higher order microphone system, as required by independent claim 1. The term "first order microphone element" having a finite delay ratio greater than one in the claim is construed as a conventional first order gradient microphone that has two inlet ports, like that of figure 2B, with a reduced distance between the inlet ports, as described on page 9 of the specification, that results in a null-less first order microphone. The finite delay ratio is understood to be the ratio of the internal delay to the propagation delay of the microphone." However, Applicant wishes to clarify that while the term "first order microphone element" covers the embodiment of figure 2B, it should not be construed to be limited to the specific configuration disclosed in the embodiment. The

Patent
7036172001

same is true with respect to the term "finite delay ratio." As such, claim 1 should be allowable for what it recites.

Also, according to the Notice of Allowability, with reference to claim 14, "As also described on page 9 of the specification, a null-less first-order microphone element is constructed by reducing the distance between the two inlet ports of a classical first order microphone. As stated above, the prior art of record does not disclose nor suggest that feature." Applicant wishes to clarify that the term "first-order microphone element" should not be construed to be limited to the specific configuration disclosed in the embodiment, and that claim 14 is allowable for what it recites.


According to the Notice of Allowability, claim 22 is of a narrower scope than claim 1. Applicant wishes to clarify that claim 1 contains limitation(s) that are not present in claim 22. As such, claim 22 may be narrower in scope than claim 1 in one respect, and broader in scope than claim 1 in another respect. As such, claim 22 should be allowable for what it recites.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Bingham McCutchen LLP

Dated: 8/18/06

By: 
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